

February 6, 2008

via Electronic Mail

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk of the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: Proposed Revisions to the Water Quality Enforcement Policy - Supplemental Environmental Projects

Thank you for the opportunity to offer comments for the February workshop on this important policy. In general the proposal improves and clarifies the appropriate enforcement response. However, the proposals regarding Supplemental Environmental Projects should be reconsidered.

Please make it as easy, attractive, and efficient as possible for dischargers to satisfy their obligation by funding Supplemental Environmental Projects. In the San Francisco Bay Region these projects have broadly served to benefit our water resources and offered excellent opportunities for community involvement in implementation. I believe we have a shared interest in supporting a wide array of projects that increase the understanding and appreciation of watershed, creek and bay resources in a way that promotes protection, restoration and environmental stewardship.

As crafted, the policy seems designed to encourage the discharger to write a check to the clean-up and abatement account and be done with it. This provides no immediate benefit to local water resources, the community or environment. Please reconsider this approach.

Thank you for considering this recommendation.

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cc: Interested Parties

